

# THE U.F.A.

OFFICIAL ORGAN

**THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA**  
**ALBERTA CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING POOLS**

VOL. VI.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, APRIL 6, 1927

No. 11

## *First Session of the Sixth Alberta Legislative Assembly Prorogues*

Staff Correspondence

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## *Sixty Years of Canadian Tariff History*

by D. F. KELLNER, M.P.

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## *Standards of Life on the Farm*

Farm Women's Section

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## *Amendments to the Canada Grain Act*

Alberta Wheat Pool Section

# The U.F.W.A. and Junior Branch

## Why Colonization Company Prefer Settlers on Land Whose Wants Are Few

**And Why the Farmers and Farm Women Must Stand Together on a Claim to Prevent Their Industry Sinking to Peasant Level.**

Dear Farm Women:

Those of you who troubled to read my letter in the last U.F.A. will remember that I drew your attention to the address of Mr. John S. Smith at the Alberta Provincial Association of Co-operative Credit Societies Convention. Mr. Smith, you will remember, pointed out the need, in his estimation, of increased economy on the part of the farmers, and made many suggestions that did not tend to add to the comfort of life on the farm.

I am wondering if you saw the report of the Canada Colonization Company, a non-profit bearing company associated with the C.P.R. They presented a report at the convention of Dominion Mortgage and Investments Association, held in Edmonton some time last fall.

In case you have not, I shall give you a brief summary of part of it. The speaker, in discussing immigration, referred to the fact that they were mainly interested in colonization by groups whom they were obtaining from European countries, over 90 per cent of whom were Mennonites. These they preferred because (1) they were good farmers, (2) their indebtedness was carried co-operatively, (3) they lived simple lives and their wants were therefore few, with the result that they found it easier to meet their mortgage indebtedness.

### MEANS SINKING TO PEASANT LEVEL

Now this does not fill me with so much resentment towards the Canada Colonization Company. They are probably good, shrewd business men and desire to be reckoned as such, and they are getting out the type most profitable for them. Nor am I belittling the Mennonites, for while I personally know little of them, I have heard much to their credit, of their industry, their integrity, their spirit of co-operation and other virtues. What does interest me, however, is the fact that this company is pleased to have on the land a people "whose wants are few" and can thus pay off their mortgage. A people on the land whose wants are few, who are content with a lower standard of living means more hardship for those living indirectly off the farmer. It also means a greater cleavage between the farmers and other classes and it means that we shall eventually sink to a peasant level.

The people at whom my indignation is turned are those of our own class who, through selfishness, indifference, ignorance or prejudice, refuse to join our organization and help our class.

Two years ago in Edmonton I very much enjoyed hearing an address by Scott Nearing. He was referring to conditions in the United States when he spoke, of course, but he pointed out the deplorable lack of class consciousness or desire to help the class. He went on to

say that he supposed it was because a man saw the great possibilities ahead. He saw, for instance, that Calvin Coolidge became President of the United States and he thought, "Well, if Calvin Coolidge can become President, anyone can become President," and his efforts were then centered personally on himself or his son. He saw that Ford became a millionaire many times over and he said to himself, "Well if Ford can become a millionaire, anyone can become a millionaire," and personal ambition dominated him. And personal ambition, if dominating one, knows no bounds; it shoulders along, brushing aside or stepping on all in its way.

### NECESSITY FOR PRIDE IN OUR CALLING

The necessity of a class consciousness and pride in our calling needs to be impressed on the farmers I feel. When we read of what others desire for farm life and the type of farmer wanted, we see how absolutely essential it is that we stand together as a class and try to put farming not on a better basis than any other calling, but on an equal footing. The highest form of patriotism, it seems to me, is to work that in our country we may all have an equal chance to develop, for no country, no civilization, achieves its best until that opportunity is given.

Yours sincerely,  
"U.F.W.A."

Has your Local selected a delegate for the University Week for Farm Young People?

### Junior Conference Fund, 1927

The first contributions to the 1927 Junior Conference Fund are listed below. This fund is for the purpose of defraying, in part, if not altogether, the railway expenses of delegates to the annual Junior Conference to be held in June.

Carleton Place U.F.A.	\$5.00
Burns U.F.A.	15.00
Wilkes Junior U.F.A.	10.00
Stitcher U.F.W.A.	5.00
	<b>\$35.00</b>

### PERMMENT WOOD ADDRESSES PILOT LIGHT JUNIORS

On March 26th the Pilot Light Junior District Association held its quarterly business meeting and Convention, with Chas. Hornstra in the chair.

President Wood gave a most inspiring talk on the U.F.A. and the Wheat Pool. "There is only one class of people in the world to blame for the condition of the farmers today, and that is the farmers themselves. We are just beginning to do a few things in a sensible, practicable way. The most outstanding example of the farmers doing things in a practicable way on the American continent, and I think I may say in the world, is the Canadian Wheat Pool. The great evil, the great danger that we have to meet is the incapacity of so many farmers for sustained effort in doing practical things." Mr. Wood said. He also impressed on his audience the fact that the older generation had done their part in bringing the farmers to a higher plane and that the task would soon fall on those who were juniors now.

Miss HuJ, the Junior Secretary, was then introduced, after which Mr. Scholtefeld spoke on general U.F.A. topics. W. M. Davidson then gave a very pleasing and instructive talk on the Chinese question.

## THE PURPOSE OF THE QUESTIONS ASKED IN ORGANIZATION BULLETIN

### WHY INFORMATION IS OMITTED

There seems to be some misunderstanding on the part of some of our members in regards to the questions that were attached to the bulletin on Banking and Credit which was issued by the Organization Committee in the March 2nd issue of *The U.F.A.*

The object of these bulletins is to provide material for discussion at the meetings of the Locals, and the information in regards to the questions asked has been omitted on purpose. The subject of Banking and Credit has been discussed in our Association for several years and we believe that there are a good many members who have considerable information on this subject and who would be in a position to discuss same at the meetings of their Local. If you have not the answers to these questions available, and are interested in this subject, you should appoint certain members of your Local to delve into the subject. Central Office has books dealing with it that can be purchased at a reasonable price.

**DO NOT WRITE TO CENTRAL** and ask for the answers as they will not be furnished. Get informed on the subject and be in a position to discuss same. The Organization Committee will publish an article later on that will deal with the answers, but not until we have received the answers of our Locals.

The above will apply to all bulletins that are issued with questions attached.

STEPHEN LUNN,  
Secretary Organization Committee.

# THE U.F.A.

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CALGARY, ALBERTA, APRIL 6th, 1927

No. 11

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## EDITORIAL

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### MEMBERS WHO KEPT THEIR ELECTION PLEDGES

(Canadian Forum, Toronto)

"In our new Parliament the various groups that claim to represent the farmer's interests include the Liberals, the Liberal-Progressives, and the Progressive, U.F.A., and Labor members, making a total of 130 out of the 245 elected representatives. When the budget was brought down and was found to provide none of the tariff relief for the farmer that was promised him in the election speeches of these 130 members, Mr. Coote brought in an amendment, the gist of it being "that this House regrets that the budget . . . contains no effective provision for the reduction in the high cost of living in so far as such is due to the protective tariff." Everyone knew that Mr. Coote's amendment had not one chance in a thousand of getting through the House; but the vote on it effectively demonstrated who are the true representatives of the farmer's interests, and we take pleasure in recording the names of the 21 members who stood by their election pledges: Messrs. Adshand, Bird, Campbell, Carmichael, Coote, Evans, Fausher (Last Mountain), Fausher (Lambton East), Gardiner, Garland (Bow River), Heaps, Irvine, Jelliff, Kellner, Kennedy, Lucas, Luchkovich, (Miss) Macphail, Speakman, Spencer, and Woodsworth. The Liberals and Liberal-Progressives joined with the Conservatives in voting against the amendment on Nov."

### A GOOD SESSION

The Alberta Government has come through its first session since receiving a new mandate from the people with added prestige. The session was not a spectacular one, but much solid work was completed.

In respect to none of its administrative policies did the Government receive even serious criticism. The much heralded

ed attack upon its Northern Railway policy proved a very tame affair. The budget debate elicited no important criticism from the new party leaders, who, faced with the Government's record of economy and careful financing, found their campaign speeches of last summer entirely inappropriate for an Assembly in which criticism must be supported by facts.

The tribute paid to the Government by one of the Conservative members whose experience of public finance added weight to his opinion, was an example of fair-mindedness and the desire to avoid mere partisanship in debate which revealed the fact that not all the members of the Assembly are dominated by the party spirit.

With some of the important legislation of the session we will deal in later issues.

\* \* \*

Although Mr. McGillivray expressed regret for hasty breaches of parliamentary decorum in the early part of the session, he failed on several later occasions to maintain the standard of dignity in debate which some of his colleagues maintained without effort.

\* \* \*

### THE CLING IN CHINA

One or two of our Western dailies are following an opportunistic policy in their discussion of the momentous events in China. Fortunately, in Alberta at least, professional and business men in increasing numbers are turning to authoritative sources for information upon the history and progress of the Nationalist movement, which gives the only apparent hope of the transformation and gradual elevation of a nation of 400,000,000 people.

Some of the city service clubs in the Province are inviting speakers who have intimate knowledge of Chinese affairs to address them. This is all to the good. There is a growing belief that though Chinese Nationalism may make grave errors, its present aims are legitimate, and must be recognized as such. We must be sure that if, in the future, the Nationalists take unwise courses, we shall at least be free of responsibility for driving them into such courses.

Some of our daily papers are at last beginning to reveal the fact that British public opinion (at least as yet) is largely opposed to any action being taken which might involve Britain in open war in China. It is realized that the problem with which Western statesmen are confronted are difficult and delicate, and no sane man seeks to minimize them. But it is also realized, by the Foreign Office as well as by scores of responsible public men, that in the long run, force in China must fail; that, however grave, and apparently menacing, the present situation, however baffling may be the problem of ensuring the safety of the foreigners who have not yet been evacuated, sooner or later, and sooner rather than later, the Chinese must be given the opportunity to work out their own destiny in their own way.

\* \* \*

During the session of the Legislature it has been necessary to curtail seriously the space devoted to news of the organization and special departments, and we regret that many valuable letters and information from Locals have necessarily been held over. Some of these items are now out of date, but as far as possible the remainder will be used in future issues.

# Week of Intensive Activity Brings to Close First Session of Sixth Legislature of the Province of Alberta

Total of 82 Bills Receive Royal Assent at End of Session Lasting Seven Weeks and Two Days—Discussions On Forthcoming Provincial Conference, Cadet Training and Workmen's Compensation Feature Debates of Concluding Week

## Staff Correspondence

### Indemnity Divided Between Leaders of Groups in Assembly

Group Leaders Receive \$200 Each, In Place of \$2,500 Formerly Paid To Opposition Leader

#### MONDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 28.—Hopes of getting back to the land by April 1st were dissipated today, when one measure on the agenda for second reading ran on into hours of the time of the Assembly. This was the bill to amend the Public Utilities Act, introduced by D. M. Duggan, Edmonton, and spoken to at length during last Friday by the proposer, C. L. Gibbs, and the Attorney General, the debate having been adjourned by Fred White, Calgary. No agreement was arrived at by six o'clock on Monday and the debate was adjourned by John Irwin, Calgary.

#### DIVIDE INDEMNITY BETWEEN GROUPS

A resolution to do away with the present arrangement whereby a sessional amount was voted the leader of the opposition, and to substitute in its place an arrangement whereby leaders of the different groups have this sessional amount (\$2,400) shared equally between them, was introduced by the Premier and carried unanimously. The amount will be divided between the Liberal, Labor and Conservative groups.

A resolution respecting an act for the compromise of seed grain and relief indebtedness and the consolidation of arrears of taxes was introduced by R. G. Reid, and the bill afterwards brought in and read a first time.

A Bill Governing Domestic Relations was read a second time without discussion, Mrs. Parby explaining the provisions contained therein. One dealing with succession duties bringing this Province into line in some respect with other Provinces was also given second reading. The Co-operative Credits Bill and the Highways (Vehicles) Bill were dealt with in committee of the whole.

#### WORK OF THE EVENING SESSION

At the evening session estimates covering the Attorney-General's Department and the Executive Council were gone over. Mr. Lymbury assured the Assembly he would look into certain matters raised, dealing with questions arising out of the estimates. J. T. Shaw thought sheriff's fees too high. Alderman Parkyn wondered why certain clerks in the different lands titles offices were shown to be receiving the sum of only \$250.00

The first session of the Sixth Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta was prorogued by Lieutenant-Governor Egbert at 6:44 p.m. on Saturday, April 2nd, after His Honor had given assent to the total of 82 bills passed by the Assembly during the session, which lasted exactly seven weeks and two days.

A number of important articles, reviewing the work of the session, both in the Assembly and in the Committee on Agriculture, will be contributed to our columns during the next few weeks by J. P. Watson, Staff Correspondent of THE U. P. A. in the Press Gallery at Edmonton.

and \$200.00 annually, asking if this was considered to be a living wage.

In regard to the question as to what action was being taken in conjunction with the Dominion Bankruptcy Act amendments, the Premier advised Mr. Shaw to see the director (Mr. McIlmoyne). Bankruptcy was only resorted to in the very last instance by the board, many farmers having had their debts compromised and had been enabled to carry on.

In connection with estimates for liquor control, the Premier said that no men of disreputable character were employed to his knowledge in the liquor enforcement squad. He explained why it was advisable to keep this work separate from the regular police, and gave reasons why it was carried out as cheaply as it would be if it were in the control of the Police Department.

Although Lucien Boodreau was not present, his shadow haunted the Assembly as a lengthy argument arose between the Attorney General and the Liberal leader as to what evidence was given in the public accounts committee on this question. The whole question being sub-judice at this time it is not debatable.

#### DUTIES OF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONER

What are the duties of the Civil Service Commissioner? was the subject of a number of questions by Mr. Shaw. The latter has a peculiar habit of asking a question over and over again, not seemingly realizing that the answer has been given. This time the Premier had to go over the ground three times before the member from Bow Valley got the answer. It was explained in the clearest of language what this official's duties were, how a co-ordinating influence was necessary between the staffs of the departments scattered all over the Province, how appointments and promotions were dealt

with, how councils between the executives and representatives of the staff were held from time to time, and a lot of other things quite apparent to the majority of the Assembly.—Yes, returned men were given preference, other things being equal, and sometimes when not equal. Amputation cases had received special consideration, and the proportion of native sons employed was something like 50% out of 2000.

Asked as to what co-operation there was between the Dominion fuel board and that of the fuel investigators of the Province, the Premier said that he regretted very much to have to say that the coal industry of the Province had suffered serious injury at the hands of the Dominion Board on account of the report which they had circulated that Alberta coal was not suitable for cooking purposes. It had been necessary to overcome that handicap, but, thanks to the work of the Alberta investigators, it was being done. P. M. Christophers, who is always on his toes when coal is being discussed, asked the Premier under what Government brigetting was first carried out at Ouellet, Saskatchewan, but the Premier was not aware at the moment.

The question of taking the mineral rights case to the Privy Council was discussed, the Premier pointing out that the Privy Council had nothing to do with the assessment of the mineral rights tax. The Dominion Government had disallowed the act, but the Province was considering the imposition of some tax equivalent to the mineral rights tax so as to bring the properties into paying their share of the Province's burden. It might be necessary to impose a tax in the form of an increment levy, but in any case something would be done at no distant date.

#### WHO WON THE GAS RATE WAR?

The Public Utilities Amendment Bill revolved itself into a battle between Edmonton members as to who won the gas rate war. The whole situation was canvassed from A to Z. The Attorney General, Mr. Brownlie, and Fred White opposed the bill, but debate was adjourned to see if compromise could not be effected. Messrs. Duggan, the mover, A. A. McKivray, and L. A. Groux, the latter getting quite eloquent, spoke in favor. Apart from the Edmonton debate, the principle of the bill hinged on the referring of questions of fact to the Executive Council, and of questions of law to the Supreme Court, in the event of appeal from the decisions of the Public Utilities Board.

The layman was confused by the verbal battle between the lawyers as to when is a question of fact a question of law? The answer: "It must be when it is," closed the air, and made way for

the plain statement of Mr. Browlee that the initial purpose of the creation of a utilities board was to place certain matters beyond the reach of political strife, vested in an independent body, and chosen because of certain qualifications. To revert to the saddling of the Executive Council with appeals was defeating the object aimed at, and the Supreme Court appeal would lead to repeated and costly litigation. The amendment of the Board itself was to be preferred. The Government was not averse to some modified right of appeal in questions of law, and advised the holding over until the question could be compromised. John Irwin, Calgary, adjourned the debate.

## Old and New Members Give Credit for the Improved Accounts

McGillivray Resolution, Introduced as MM  
Censure, Calls Forth Tributes  
From Labor and Liberals

### TUESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 29.—Two resolutions by A. A. McGillivray featured the afternoon sitting of the Legislative Assembly today. The first, asking the preparation before next session of a complete revision and codification of the law of the Province relating to municipal affairs, to be submitted at that time in the form of a Government bill, was voted down by 26 to 4, a large number of members being absent or not voting.

The second asked the Assembly to express the opinion that:

"The Government should hereafter disclose in the public accounts of the Province at the time the same are laid upon the table of this House, in the case of each trading activity of the Province including the railways and telephones owned and operated by the Province, a balance sheet setting forth assets and liabilities together with full details of all capital expenditures during the year; also a revenue and expenditure account for the year setting forth the full earnings and the amounts spent on operation, maintenance and administration or otherwise, with the proper subdivisions of the same clearly defined."

### STING WAS IN THE TALE

This resolution was apparently quite innocent in itself, but the Government and several other speakers seemed to think that the sting was in the tale which the mover told when introducing it.

Mr. McGillivray accused the Government of having inserted leaves in the public accounts between a certain time when the leader had interviewed the auditor with regard to some matters, and another later time when he spoke on the question in the Assembly. He said all the pages up to 128 had been numbered by machine, while page 128 1-2 was numbered in ink. The index did not suit the leader either. He objected very much to the bad policy of slipping in leaves or taking leaves out. It was not dishonest or anything like that, you know, but it was wrong.

The leader went into lengthy detail on what the public accounts contained. Expenditures of money were shown under the heads, Roads, Equipment, Operation and Maintenance. "Are the words 'Roads,

Equipment, Maintenance and Operation' to be all with which to account to the people or the Province for the expenditure of nearly two millions of dollars of their money?" he asked. "Any large corporation directors who had the temerity to offer to their shareholders such a statement as that would not expect to retain their positions overnight."

The resolution, said Mr. McGillivray, could not be defeated on the ground of the heavy cost entailed, as the leader had taken the precaution to interview a competent Chartered Accountant before coming in, and the latter had pointed out that if the books were being kept as they should be it would be merely a matter of a few hours' work to assemble the information asked for. Toward the conclusion of his speech Mr. McGillivray drew attention to the fact that the resolution did not deal with the past, but provided for the years that lay before, and if the Legislature voted it down, as he expected them to do, it would mean that they were putting the full mark of their approval on the policy of "non-disclosure" adopted by the Government.

### WILL ACCEPT RESOLUTION IF IN GOOD FAITH

R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer, said the Government had made it a policy to accept suggestions or advice offered in good faith from members opposite. They refused to accept such as were offered in such a way as to convey a mild degree of censure on the Government. The words of the leader in presenting the resolution had dispelled any lingering doubt as to the intent of the motion.

The Government had never pretended that the public accounts were perfect, or that they contained all the information which could be placed in them. The only fair way to judge was to compare the accounts of today with those of years ago, or, e. g., with those of other Provinces to date.

### IMPROVED BEYOND RECOGNITION

As to whether they were worse or better than those of former days, the Minister contended that they had improved beyond all recognition.

These accounts had been referred to publicly by a former leader of the Conservative party in this Province, now the financial critic of the House of Commons, as the most admirable set of public accounts of any Government in Canada.

In 1921 there were thirteen statements, not one of which was either a balance sheet or a profit and loss account in that sense of the word. Today there were ninety-six statements, each in the form referred to.

"I submit that we have shown tremendous progress and that we will continue to show progress," went on the Minister, "but it is obviously unfair both to the Government and the people responsible for the accounts to imply censure when there should be commendation."

It would involve expense, not to say waste of effort, to include in the public accounts the most meticulous detail of all transactions. Many items would total 50 cents or \$1.00 and the books were available always to those wishing information as to the details. He resented the censure implied, and moved that the motion be amended by striking out all the words after the word "should" in the second line and substituting the following:

"continue its efforts to improve the public accounts so as to disclose an

full information as possible with reference to the various departments and trading activities of the Province;

And that in addition to the balance sheet and profit and loss statements now included with respect to each trading activity, the Government should, having regard to the increased time for preparation afforded by the change in the fiscal year, include statements showing a proper analysis of all capital expenditures under proper headings."

### GIROUX EXPRESSES SATISFACTION WITH IMPROVEMENT MADE

L. A. Giroux, (Liberal), was prepared to give due credit to the Government for the improvement in the rendering of the accounts. Last year's had included an appendix which he had found very valuable at country points when questioned as to the monies expended on roads and other forms of governmental activities. On being assured that there would be a second part this year also, Mr. Giroux expressed satisfaction with the accounts, and hoped they would continue to progress.

Premier Browlee also took a hand in the discussion. He repeated the statement that the railways had been and were separate entities, and whether they liked it or not were operated under the Railway Act of Canada and subject to the Board of Railway Commissioners, before whom their books were placed at stated times. The truth had been stated already that this was responsible for the delay with regard to the railway accounts.

### LEFT ENTIRELY TO AUDITOR

The Premier went on to discuss his relationship with the Provincial Auditor. They had had lots of conferences, but the Premier had left the working out of the accounts entirely in the auditor's hands. The two firms of accountants engaged in 1921 had recommended a certain course of improvement, and the recommendations had formed the basis of improvement from year to year. The Premier was pleased indeed that out of all the matter contained in the accounts only this one thing had been complained of, after what he was sure had been a most searching inquiry. The accounts had never been intended to be a sole and complete accounting.

Mr. Browlee went over all the improvements which had been introduced by the Government, and stated that he had gathered from the Conservative leader's words what he had only dimly realized from the resolution, that it was the intention to censure the Government.

D. C. Breton, Leduc, (U.F.A.), explained how he had secured information of the nature referred to, at the auditor's office, while George Webster, Calgary, (Liberal), said the accounts should be in such form as could be understood by the man in the street. A. M. Matheson, Vegreville (U.F.A.), had sympathy for the spirit of the resolution and at the same time congratulated the Government for the progress made. He was highly pleased at the growth of the new-born desire for information among certain sections of the Assembly, and trusted that it would continue.

### RESENTS CONSERVATIVE LEADER'S METHOD

C. L. Gibbs, Edmonton, (Labor), as a new member, felt that the spirit of the resolution was all right, but not being able to judge from past experience, he

was compelled to judge by the tone of the debate. He resented the Conservative Leader's method, whom with clarity and rigor he plainly accused the Government. Mr. Gibbs said he had been greatly influenced by what had been said by the Provincial Treasurer and Mr. Giroux, one of the old members, and he felt it his duty to support the amendment rather than the resolution.

MR. R. H. Parkyn, Calgary, (Labor) expressed pleasure at what he called the conversion of another Calgary member to the principle of disclosure of accounts in public, as he remembered having been told often to go round to the mayor's office. It must be the Edmonton atmosphere, commented the Labor member.

#### SHAW GIVES CREDIT TO GOVERNMENT

J. T. Shaw, Bow Valley, (Liberal), saw no difference between the resolution and the amendment, other than that the one implied censure and the other asked for a pat on the back. It was immaterial which one carried, although he admitted the Government deserved credit for improving the accounts.

The vote being taken, on the amendment, it was carried without division.

A. A. McGillivray, in closing the debate, dealt with the arguments of opponents of his resolution. He did not approve of the same individual keeping the books and at the same time having to affix his signature as to the correctness of the audit. He waxed dramatic as usual when he declared: "Let the government get all the credit and glorification possible; still the fact remains that nearly four million dollars are accounted for by only four words." This resolution would be taken, he contended, dressed up in other languages, and then the members opposite would say, "Lo and behold! It is a government measure."

On the speaker asking those in favor of the amended resolution to say "Aye," Mr. McGillivray's voice rose above everyone with a stentorian "AYE." Laughter having arisen from the Treasury benches, the speaker called for the Noes, and the farmers just to the right of the speaker shouted "No." It was a moment of confusion, but was righted on the standing vote being called. On division, the amended (Government) resolution carried by 47 to 4, all Conservatives voting against.

The Assembly then took up the estimates. The coal industry will get a boost this year if nothing unforeseen happens, and a new chief inspector of mines will be appointed; the present chief, John T. Stirling, will devote his entire time to the work on the Compensation Board. This information was given during consideration of the mines

branch estimates. More rigid enforcement of the Mines Act, and the transfer of the fuel engineer's office from Manitoba to B.C. was intended.

## Battle in Assembly on Legal Principle re Negligence Bill

Towns and Village Acts Amended—Not  
Acres Not Disqualification For  
Office

### WEDNESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 30.—Debate on a bill to apportion damages according to degree of negligence on the part of claimants in an action for damages, was the subject of a legal battle in the Assembly today. The Premier, A. A. McGillivray, L. A. Giroux, and the Attorney General took part in the make, the only laymen to participate being the leader of the Labor group. The Premier stated that as objection had developed to the bill since going before the legal bills committee, the Government, although in favor of the measure, would not press for its acceptance this year.

A. A. McGillivray, Calgary, opposed the bill as embodying a new principle. The laws dealing with negligence on the statute books of Great Britain and Canada had stood the test of time, but apart from arguments of a technical nature he contended that the bill was entirely impractical. He claimed that in the case of a member of the railway running trades, for example, who had been injured in the course of his duty, through negligence of the company, and who retained his common law rights, in applying for damages would have to convince the jury of the negligence of the company; at the same time the company might also prove a measure of negligence on the part of the employee, and under the new act the employee would thus be deprived of his damages. It was a good measure from the standpoint of the corporation.

#### PREMIER BELIEVES OF ADVANTAGE TO EMPLOYEES

The Premier, as a lawyer, disagreed with the member from Calgary. The leader's argument had been based on the assumption that if both sides proved negligence the worker would be deprived of his compensation. If the matter was judged on the basis of the result of trials for damages in the past it would be seen that many workmen who had lost out in the matter of damages would if this act had been in force have received an amount commensurate with the degree of liability. Under the present act if a company proves that a worker was guilty of contributory negligence the latter receives no damages. Under the proposed act he would only lose an amount consistent with the degree of negligence proved. Far from this measure being a corporation measure it gave protection to employees. The legal fraternity had expressed approval of the bill, which was not new but was in operation in France, several Provinces, and on the high seas. He would rather wait one more year for its submission to bodies interested.

Fred White, Calgary (Labor) thought it better that some delay should be made in order to bring the bill to the attention of interested parties. L. A. Giroux, Grouard, (Liberal), supported the measure as one which would distinguish between contributory negligence and primary

negligence. The ordinary individual did not have much chance in an action for damages against the large corporation. The bill was worth trying out.

After the Attorney-General had taken a hand in the debate the bill was laid over by the committee rising on the motion of the Premier.

Second reading was given bills dealing with the levying of a five per cent tax on pari-mutuels and the collection of same; to amend the Factories Act so as to bring well-drilling rigs within its scope; and a bill to amend the Mines' Act, argument on which was reserved for the committee stage.

#### TAX ARREARS WILL NOT DISQUALIFY

The Towns and Village Acts were considered in committee, amendments annulling the clauses surrounding the election and qualification of mayor and councillors. The amendments provided that arrears of taxes or other liens, etc., should not disqualify candidature, as was proposed in the bill.

During the discussion of the Education Department estimates, a whole lot of questions were asked. Col. Weaver, Edmonton, (Conservative) wanted to know why there was such a disparity in the grants given to the Provincial School of Technology at Calgary and those given the school board at Edmonton for technical education. The Minister replied that all grants were given on a statutory basis. Before the Department received grants from the Dominion these had to be earned, and the Department in turn paid grants amounting to 60 per cent of the teacher's salary, up to a maximum of \$600 per teacher. Edmonton received the maximum, and but for the fact that the Province carried on the work of the Technical Institute there would be no Dominion subvention to divide. There had been expansion of the work at Calgary, night schools, commercial, vocational and others which had necessitated an increase in expenditure.

#### SOME FIGURES ON SCHOOL INSPECTIONS

J. T. Shaw, Bow Valley, (Liberal leader) asked how the number of school inspections last year compared with those prior to the decrease in the number of inspectors. The Minister pointed out that in 1923, 151 schools had not received any inspection; in 1925, 221; in 1927, 162; and in 1929, 414. In answer to the further query as to how the claim was based which averred that a fewer number of inspectors had accomplished a larger number of inspections than had a larger number of inspectors, the Minister stated that he had not made any claim in that regard. It was quite true that there had been a larger number of inspections, but it had to be remembered that inspection did not cover the entire work of an inspector, and in endeavoring to cover the field at least once, some other services had to suffer. The figures were that in 1920, 30 inspectors had made 4,098 inspections, while in 1925, 25 inspectors had made 5,536. If it were possible the Minister would like to see some competent man attend each rural school, especially where there were weaker teachers, and spend one whole day at least four times a year. That, however, was out of the question, as it would cost half a million dollars.

#### CITIES RECEIVE NO MORE THAN FORMERLY

The Liberal leader was not satisfied. He asked if it were not a fact that the total number of inspections had been

#### COMMITTEE TO REVISE RULES OF ALBERTA ASSEMBLY

A Committee appointed by Mr. Speaker to investigate the House rules and present recommendations for the revision of same, was selected last week. The names as announced by Mr. Speaker are: E. G. Reid (convener); O. L. McPherson, Minister of Public Works; Deputy Speaker M. C. McKern; C. B. Pingle, Liberal; C. L. Gibbs, Labor; Lucius Joly, U.F.A.; A. A. McGillivray, Conservative.

boosted by the method of withdrawing inspectors from rural parts in winter and placing them on work in the cities, thus raising the total. The Minister stated that the cities received no more than formerly. Prior to the change Calgary and Edmonton had two permanent inspectors, while Lethbridge had one. These men confined their efforts during the entire year to the work of inspecting city schools. At the time of the change these inspectors were withdrawn, and the work of inspection was accomplished by the use of inspectors from rural inspectorates in the slack time. This had proved no increased number of inspections, but merely an adjustment of the system. Donald Cameron, Innisfail, (U.F.A.) and G. W. Smith, Red Deer, (U.F.A.), testified to the good work done by inspectors in their respective districts, and the items covering this work were approved.

Mr. Shaw wondered if two branches, one dealing with attendance and operation, and the other with delinquents and statistics, could not be consolidated. The reply was no, and the duties of each were detailed. The Minister detailed the number of deaf and blind children being educated by the Province at schools in Manitoba, Montreal and Point Grey. Subnormal children were provided for by grant, the segregation or otherwise being left to the discretion of the school boards. There were two teachers provided at Calgary and Edmonton, and one at Lethbridge, 50 per cent of the salary being paid by the Province.

A. M. Matheson, Vegreville, (U.F.A.) dealing with the estimates for miscellaneous, asked the Minister if a grant of \$25 could be obtained by the Vegreville district to help inaugurate a musical festival. The Minister answered that the matter would be referred to the Executive Council.

## Government Favors Shaw Resolution on Coming Conference

Assembly Discusses Proposed Subjects  
For Discussion at Provincial Conference — House Rules  
Resolution Amended

### THURSDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 31.—Three resolutions emanating from the benches to the left of the Speaker featured the sittings of the House today. In the afternoon to clean up the business, the estimates were taken up first, and finally passed, the necessary supply bill being introduced at the close.

A. A. McGillivray, Calgary, (Conservative), introduced the first resolution, dealing with the amending of the statute law with regard to house rules. It comprised five sections, ranging from the changing of the hours of sittings to the length of time accorded speakers other than leaders. The Government saw fit to amend this resolution by referring the matter to a Speaker's Committee to investigate, prepare a report, and present same to the Assembly next session. The amendment carried 48 to 4, Matheson and Parkyn not voting.

The second, which came up at the evening session, was one sponsored by Joseph T. Shaw, Bow Valley, (Liberal), comprising also some six sections, covering suggested subjects for presentation

to the foremost conference of Dominion and Provincial Governments. Fred J. White, Calgary, (Labor), suggested several more, accepted after modification by the Premier, but opposed by A. A. McGillivray, who adjourned the debate to obtain time. Adjournment was not granted without division, the vote being 24 to 14 in White's favor.

The third resolution dealt with the equalization of the hours of government employees, it being pointed out that some engineers at certain institutions worked seven days a week for the same salary as some others who only worked six. The Government, through the Minister of Public Works, explained that effort had been made and would continue to be made as far as possible to remedy all inequalities, and the proposer of the resolution, Andrew Smerten, Lethbridge, (Labor), feeling that its purpose had been achieved, withdrew the resolution.

### NO PICAUNE MATTERS, THESE

The first resolution dealt with no picaune matters, being principally a plea for the eight hour day (or less) for the weary wives who grind out the reports for the daily press. That, of course, was not in the resolution, it was merely a side issue, injected to break the iron clad breasts of the occupants of the Treasury benches. The Premier remarked later on in the debate, that the member from Calgary had had no reason to complain about not finding his way into the daily press. The resolution was as follows:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this House, with a view to expediting the business of this House and with a view to allowing ample opportunity for a careful consideration of the legislation coming before this House, the Government should introduce all necessary amendments to the statute law of the Province and the rules of this House so as to provide:

1. That the sittings of this House shall commence at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and, subject to the unanimous consent of the Members present, shall terminate at 6 o'clock in the afternoon, during the first four weeks of any Session.

2. That all Government bills shall be printed and distributed amongst the members of this House at least ten days before the commencement of any Session thereof, according to the Government the right to introduce bills in the course of the session that have not been so distributed because of inadvertence, mistake or unforeseen circumstances.

3. That the Public Accounts of the Province be prepared and the Consolidated Balance Sheet and Abstract of the Public Accounts be printed and distributed amongst the Members of this House at least ten days before the commencement of any Session of this House.

4. That all annual reports of the departments of Government be prepared and two or more typewritten or printed copies thereof be furnished to the respective leaders of all parties or groups in this House at least ten days before the commencement of any session of this House.

5. That the address of any member other than the Premier, a leader of any opposition party or group, and a Minister introducing a bill, shall be limited to a period of time not exceeding forty minutes in any particular debate.

### TO EXPEDITE BUSINESS OF ASSEMBLY

Leader McGillivray explained the resolution. It was intended to expedite the business of the Assembly and to provide the members ample time to review legislation. The Assembly should convene before three and hold no evening sittings until the 5th week of the session. Members worked in committee from ten until lunch, he said; then from that time until three there was a period when no con-

stant matter was before the members; then at six they went to their several places of abode, returning at eight and remaining in session till ten or later. 'Twice too much, much too much. It were one out, you might say, so that one could not give the attention to legislation that one ought to, in view of the fact that one represented 600,000 people or a fraction thereof as the case may be. The thought of the 600,000 people made the leader deplore the fact that there was no official record, no Hansard, no Canadian Press, no way of informing the people who had sent the legislators there as to what they were saying and doing, and the poor pressmen were overworked night and day trying to get the news across. This Legislature was in just the same position as the House of Commons in 1884.

Discussing the clauses demanding the printing of all Government bills and their circulation among the members ten days clear before the opening day, Mr. McGillivray said, not one member that day could recite even the names of one half of the 77 Government bills, not to speak of their subject matter. The consolidated balance sheet and abstract of the public accounts should also be treated similarly, and in view of the change of the fiscal year there could be no reason why this could not be done.

The leader made some caustic remarks about the Legislature having to give ill digested thought to the bills which were laid on their desks from day to day like snowstorms, and this meant, he said, that the Legislature had resolved itself into a government by commission, the seven occupants of the front benches being the commission.

### SHAW AGAINST FAVORS FOR LEADERS

Joseph T. Shaw, Bow Valley, agreed in some respects with the resolution, but disagreed with others. The matter of printing and circulating bills, public account abstracts, and reports, if at all possible, would be very commendable, although he saw no reason why the leaders should be specially favored. He disagreed with regard to the sittings of the Assembly. The proposed change of the hour of assembly to two o'clock had been tried out in the Dominion House and had to be discontinued. He did not agree with regard to discontinuing the evening sessions either. Four nights a week might perhaps be a little heavy, but three would not be out of place. All bills, he thought, should be done before the evening sittings started. He did not favor a rush at the end of session.

Neither did the member for Bow Valley agree that the time limit should be imposed on private members. Few of these gentlemen exceeded the proposed time limit, and he saw no reason, if it should be necessary, why a private member should not have the same right as any leader. The Dominion House had 245 members, and the Legislature only 60, so the case was not analogous. The whole question, he contended, should be placed in the hands of a committee who should consider the question and report at the earliest convenient period.

Fred White said that Labor's views coincided with those of the Liberal leader. He preferred the method suggested, a committee to revise the rules generally. It was time in any case for a general overhaul of the rules.

### BROWNLEE ON DANGERS OF HARD AND FAST RULE

J. E. Brownlee, Premier, said there was much that was agreeable to him in the

resolution. He was anxious that business be expedited, and hoped that the Government had not given the impression during the past five years that they were self-sufficient or had lost touch with the desires of members. He went over the suggestions clause by clause. He could not consent to delaying evening sessions until four weeks had gone. There was danger if that were done that afternoon sittings might delay business unduly for those four weeks. He did not charge that present occupants of the opposing benches would do that, but laying down a hard and fast rule would invite that course. He regretted very much if members had suffered inconvenience on account of the strenuous endeavor to push the business, but he gave good reason for so doing. The change of the year would help out, as the fact that the budget could never be brought down before March had meant the calling of the Assembly in February, and the consequent desire to get back to the farm on the part of those whose occupation lay in that direction was a factor. Beginning next year they might meet in December, and the session ought in any case to finish in eight weeks.

Mr. Brownlee analysed the growth of the present system to show that what was done had been done in response to long experience. The fact that Legislatures and Parliaments met at three was not an accident, but the result of experience. The occupants of the Treasury benches had to carry on the affairs of their Departments just as was done when the House was not in session; they had to attend committees, they had to meet delegations, they had to prepare legislation, and a hundred and one things before the Assembly met at three. Sometimes they had to go without lunch. Perhaps they had pressed the members too hard this year, Mr. Brownlee said, but he counselled them to think of how things were done at Ottawa, when members sat until the early hours of the morning, not for a matter of three or four weeks but for four or five months at a stretch. To put it plainly, he did not believe that members were really over-worked.

#### GREAT IMPROVEMENT OVER OLD CONDITIONS

With regard to bills coming in fast, and being passed without due consideration, the Government had improved the old conditions when bills did not begin to come down until after the speech from the throne had ended. Then they used to have the method known as the Statute Law Amendment Bill, when at the close of the session 40 or 50 bills were passed as one. That was a thing of the past. The submission of bills to the public in one instance prior to the meeting of the Assembly had led to revivification. The Government had strictly followed the rule that no reports or public documents would be circulated before they had become the property of the Assembly by having been laid on the table. The Premier stated that he had honestly endeavored to meet the wishes of the leader when he had requested that he be furnished with copies of the reports. He would like to meet the wishes of all with regard to the distribution of the Public Accounts, but he pointed out that Governments had erred greatly in spending public money in a too promiscuous distribution of documents of this nature. There had been good men on the opposition side of the Assembly during the last five years, men qualified to judge, and not once in that time had the Govern-

ment been charged with non-disclosure of any items of public expenditures.

Under the statutes these documents had to be laid on the table so many days after the opening of the session. This had been scrupulously adhered to. With regard to the limitation of time for speeches, this, even if put into effect, would not affect more than four or five men, outside the leaders, as very few exceeded forty minutes at any time. He instanced the valuable speech of Mr. Duggan lately, asking if the members of the Assembly would like to have a speech of that nature curtailed, when its value was so immense?

#### PREMIER ACCEPTS SHAW'S SUGGESTION

The Premier mentioned that he had tried to meet the wishes of the leader and had interviewed him to induce him to put the suggestions in such form as the Government could accept, but without result. The Liberal leader's suggestion was, in his opinion, the better one, and had suggested itself to him as the proper course of action. He, therefore, moved the following amendment:

**RESOLVED** that the Motion be amended by striking out all the words after the word "That" in the first line and substituting the following:

"A Committee of the House consisting of seven (7) Members representative of all groups in the House be appointed by Mr. Speaker for the purpose of considering ways and means of facilitating the business of the House and for the purpose of revising the Rules of the House, and

Further, that such Committee be under the Chairmanship of Mr. Speaker and may be summoned from time to time during the interim following the present Session and report to the House as soon as possible after the opening of the next Session, and that any expense involved in connection with the work of the Committee shall be paid by the Province."

Gordon Forster, Hand Hills (U.F.A.) pointed out the impossibility of amending the entire rules of the Assembly by the passing of one resolution. It ought to be the considered work of a committee of the Legislature.

A. M. Matheson, Vegreville (U.F.A.), sympathized with the resolution, but if the interests of his constituents were at stake he was not going to be bound by any 40 minute limit which was not imposed on all alike. Too many bills had brought him to the point where he concentrated on those on which he happened to be interested, letting the others sail by. He was not going to vote either for or against.

#### MCGILLIVRAY'S IDEAS OF COURTESY

The amendment having been put and carried by the AYES, the Conservative chief wound up the debate, in the course of which he made a nasty reference to the interview between the Premier and himself. A slight altercation arose between the leader and the Premier because of the statement that the Conservative leader had been furnished with copies of the reports. The leader admitted that since the day when he brought up the matter in the Assembly copies had been furnished of those reports introduced since.

"I do not want these things as a matter of courtesy, but as a matter of right," he declared, tossing all courtesy to the winds. "When I came to this Assembly and found the honorable Premier posing as the personification of frankness and candor I confess I fell for it, but now I am a disillusioned and wiser man. No resolution proposed from this side of the House can get by unless meetings are

arranged in some lavatory or other secret place and the resolution dressed up in new guise so that it can be introduced as a Government conception."

On division the motion as amended carried by 48 to 4.

#### SHAW'S RESOLUTION RE PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

At the evening session, J. T. Shaw moved the following resolution:

Whereas, the Dominion Government has given notice of its intention to call, during this year, a conference representative of the Federal and Provincial Governments; and

Whereas, it is desirable that all questions outstanding should be openly canvassed and considered and if possible a basis of agreement arranged at such a conference, subject, however, to confirmation by the Parliament of Canada and the Legislatures of all the Provinces;

Now, therefore, this Assembly directs the Provincial Government to present before the conference for its consideration the following, among other problems:

1. The desirability of Canada securing the right to amend or revise her own constitution and its procedure necessary to secure such revision or amendment thereof, whether same be undertaken at the instance of the Federal Government or of any Provincial Government.
2. The necessity for streamlining, revising and re-development of the courts and the steps requisite to secure speedy and effective legislation in respect thereof.
3. The necessity for a re-allocation of the field of taxation as between the Federal and Provincial Governments and in addition thereto, an agreed revision of the existing subsidy arrangements.
4. A thorough examination of those interests in which the Provincial and Federal Governments exercise concurrent jurisdiction, such as agriculture, policing, immigration, health, research activities, etc., with a view to a clearer definition of the primary responsibility thereof, and in any event to secure a more efficient coordination of activity and a more effective co-operation of effort therein.
5. That Senate reform be undertaken in a manner that will ensure that the Senate will more closely approximate to the wishes and desires of the framers of Confederation in order that that body may become more democratic and more effectively reflect the public will.
6. That the situation of said conference be turned to the railway problems of Alberta, in order that appropriate relief may be secured.

The leader of the Liberals wished to change the preamble slightly so that it would read, "recommend to the Government the desirability of" instead of the words "directs the Government," thus giving more latitude for its interpretation. Mr. Shaw explained the resolution, stressing the urgency of the need for Canada being granted the right to amend her own constitution. The attitude of the British Government had always been that unless Canada came with practical unanimity no amendments would be agreed to. The suggested conference ought to be productive of at least a basis of agreement.

South Africa, Australia and other British Dominions had that right, and as Canada had been the first of the colonies to have a constitution there was no reason why she should not possess the same right as others.

#### SECOND CLAUSE OBVIOUSLY DESIRABLE

The desirability of the second clause was apparent to any person of humanitarian outlook, while the third was urgently necessary. Since the war the Dominion had invaded the field of direct taxation to the restriction of that field to the Provinces. Such taxes as income

(Continued on Page 18)



# Both Parties Soft Pedal on the Tariff Issue

Debate on Budget in House of Commons Shows That There Is Now No Difference of Opinion Between the Liberals and the Conservatives—Sixty Years of Tariff History.

By DONALD F. KELLNER, M.P.

Sixty years ago Canada adopted what is known as the National Policy, providing for the collection of a customs tariff on her imports. Since then many a political battle has been fought, in which the tariff was the issue. It was the only issue that definitely divided the two parties, so that whenever an election was keenly contested, the discussion centred around the tariff. No Budget was ever debated in Ottawa without the tariff being the chief topic of discussion; the Liberals advocating a mixture of low tariff and free trade, and the Conservatives advocating adequate protection.

## SIXTY YEARS OF TARIFF HISTORY

When one looks at the tariff that has been maintained by the various governments, it is puzzling to understand what all the controversy was about. Below is given the tariff in force at periods covering the life of Governments of different political shades, together with the amount of money actually collected.

	Dutiable Total Imports		Total Collection	
	Per Cent	Per Cent		
1866	20.2	13.1	1870	37 million
1880	20.1	20.2	1880	32 million
1890	31.0	21.3	1890	43 million
1896	30.0	19.2	1900	44 million
1910	26.8	16.5	1910	95 million
1921	20.6	14.1	1920	129 million
1926	24.7	15.5	1926	163 million

In other words the Conservatives, in 1866, started with a duty on dutiable imports of 20.2 per cent and on total imports of 13.1 per cent. On their defeat in 1866, it will be seen that the tariff had increased to 30.0 per cent on dutiable and to 19.2 per cent on total imports. Then the Liberals held office for fifteen years, and by 1910 the tariff stood at 26.8 on dutiable and 16.5 on total imports, which duty the high tariff Conservatives, by 1921, had reduced to 20.6 on dutiable and 14.1 on total imports. The following year the low tariff Liberals took office, and by 1926, the rate was increased to 24.7 on dutiable, and 15.5 on total. Figures are taken from the Annual Trade Report of Canada, and, of course, are Government figures.

If these figures bewilder your tariff opinions a little, a scrutiny of the debate on the Budget just passed will make you politically groggy altogether.

## BACKGROUND OF THIS YEAR'S DEBATE

The background for this year's debate has been laid in past years, particularly since 1919, when the Liberal party held a national convention and adopted a National Policy re-affirming their stand in favor of lower tariffs than at that time prevailed. Add to this the declarations of several members of the Government in power since 1921, and the universal claim of the party of its firm conviction to the policy of low tariffs, and you have the conception of a party anxious and ready to reduce the tariff, just as fast as conditions would warrant, moving slowly



D. F. Kellner, M.P.

now and then perhaps, when met by exceptional circumstances, but pressing on and on to the goal of low tariff and free trade.

Then we had the Conservatives, maintaining that Canada, perhaps more than any other country, required adequate protection; that industry could only grow and expand if given the support of a Protective Tariff high enough to allow her to compete with the lower wages of Europe, and high enough to meet the competition of mass production from the United States.

## BOTH PARTIES SOFT PEDAL

Then came this Budget debate, and both parties began to soft pedal. The Liberals began to argue that the tariff is now low enough, in fact some of the supporters of the Government definitely stated they did not believe in low tariffs. The Conservatives, not to be outdone, agreed that the tariff was high enough save on some few articles, and even hinted that if they were in power, it might be reduced. Taking it all in all, the arguments were tumultuous enough to give a tranquil public a bad case of sea sickness. The Government supporters argued that tariff adjustments should wait until the tariff commission had time to report, and these reports were duly considered.

It seems very apparent where that policy will lead. There have been some fifty-two applications for changes in the tariff, to the tariff board, and all save three are for increases. The textile manufacturers have just made an application for an increase, which shows the uneven pressure that can be started by

the various parties interested in an application of this kind. The manufacturers of textiles from every manufacturing point in Canada came to Ottawa, and brought with them a display of their wares. These were arranged in rooms of the second and third floor of the Clarendon Hotel, and gave the appearance of a section of a departmental store.

The arguments in support of the application, no doubt were as voluminous and prepared with as great care as was their display. That is, representatives were there who were versed in all phases of the trade to supply data, and experienced pleaders were there to present the case. The application was in no way stifled for the want of money or organization.

## NO SPOKESMEN FOR CONSUMERS' INTEREST

On the other hand, the thousands of consumers who are using these goods, and are vitally concerned about the price, have no organization for presenting their case, and no prospect of their representations being effectively submitted, so that if the Tariff Commission is going to decide the case on the evidence offered, it is practically a foregone conclusion what their recommendations will be.

Perhaps members of the House of Commons had different conceptions of what were to be the underpinnings of the Tariff Commission. Personally, I was always suspicious of it functioning in the interest of the consumer, but the opinion I held as to what was to be the undertakings of that commission, such opinions based on statements made by the Government, were not in accord with what is now accepted as the function of the tariff commission. At the 1921 election both Liberals and Progressives were elected on a low tariff platform, and to these two groups were elected about 75 per cent of the members. The impression I held was that that election settled the controversy, and that the Government, regardless of the personal convictions of some of its adherents, was going to proceed to inaugurate a low tariff policy. Everyone knows that a sudden change in the tariff is apt to embarrass business, so we were to have the Commission for the purpose of determining how fast and how far the Government could lower the tariff, and at the same time, not unduly affect the stability of business.

## NOW NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PARTIES

The debate on the Budget just closed would indicate that there is now no difference in the opinions of Liberals and Conservatives, and that their opinions are from now on to be more or less subservient to the findings of the Tariff Commission. The policy of low tariff is abandoned, and now the whole question is a matter of argument before the Commission, with forty-nine applications for increases and three for decreases to date.

Force is given the above contention by the statement by a former low tariff advocate, a man from the West, one

also, while in the Provincial Government of Saskatchewan, had a habit of moving low tariff resolutions, Hon. C. A. Dunning. Speaking on the Budget Debate, he said:

"We shall move forward cautiously, with aid of knowledge of the facts secured by the Tariff Advisory Board, towards the goal of making our tariff structure bear as lightly as possible on production, industry, and the people generally, having always in view the greater prosperity of all the legitimate industries in Canada."

Mr. Guthrie: "We are not high protectionists; we do not seek 'higher and higher and higher protection.' Nobody in the Conservative party seeks or desires any such thing—nobody suggests it. We ask for reasonable, adequate protection, bearing equally and fairly upon all and harshly upon none."

It will be noticed how closely the Liberal tariff policy, as enunciated by Mr. Dunning, and the Conservative policy, as held down by Mr. Guthrie, resemble each other. But, before I close, I would like to call attention to the divergent views of some of the Ministers.

#### Chart and a Compass

On March 3, 1924, Mr. Mackenzie King said: "I said that the Liberal platform was a chart; that the compass would be the Government of the day, composed of men who were in a position to judge of the country's needs and situation, that they would be guided by the light of facts as to how far at any particular time it would be wise to go in carrying out the provisions as set forth in the platform."

#### Nothing Doing

Hon. Charles Stewart, April 14, 1924: "I trust it will be the death knell of protection."

#### Free Trade No. 1

Mr. Euler (now Minister of Customs) March 12, 1924: "While I believe in a tariff; while I believe in a tariff for revenue and a tariff that will maintain legitimate industry, I would not for a moment place any premium upon inefficiency on the part of the Canadian manufacturer."

#### Test Test Tariff Stability

Mr. Fielding, (then Minister of Finance) 1923: "Nevertheless it is desirable that something like an assurance of tariff stability should be given to business men."

## Why the Claim for Favored Treatment in the Duncan Report Is Unconvincing

**Any Past Grievances of Maritime Provinces Can Be Satisfactorily Remedied Only By National, Not By Sectional Adjustments—No Consideration Given In Report to Other Provinces.**

By W. M. DAVIDSON

### PART II

In my last contribution to *The U. F. A.* dealing with the recommendation of the Duncan report about the claims of the Maritime Provinces for special treatment, I analysed in some detail the suggestion that the Provinces should receive from the Federal Parliament increased subsidies at once.

The claim for favored treatment in the Duncan report is not convincing, and perhaps more serious than that, the plan is a wide departure from the basis of Confederation, which has been regarded as a treaty among self-governing colonies which cannot be changed materially, without the approval of all the Provinces. Not only has there been no such approval, but the recommendations were made without any consideration of the other Provinces.

### EXCUSE NOT A VALID ONE

The excuse is now given that the recommendation about subsidies is merely for interim increases, which will be submitted later to a conference of the Provinces. That is not quite correct. The Duncan report recommends these increases as against the subsidies received by the other Provinces. It is not suggested that these increases should be made to the three Maritime Provinces because there should be increases to all of the Provinces, but that these increases should be made because the Maritime Provinces, for conditions which are set out, are deserving of more consideration as compared to the other Provinces.

If the Provinces do meet in conference to discuss subsidies, the Maritime Provinces may join in demands for general increases in subsidies, but in addition to the general increases, they have this additional vested claim, which they will insist upon because they have been recognized by Parliament—that is, if Parliament should adopt the plan.

Urgent as is the finding respecting sub-

sidies and threatening to the continued harmony of the Dominion, the suggestions respecting changed policy in administering the national railway seem in some respect even more dangerous.

### WIDE DEPARTURE FROM PUBLIC OWNERSHIP PRINCIPLE

The commissioners urge, and Parliament seems determined to adopt, a blanket reduction on all rail rates on that part of the C.N.R., known as the Atlantic section—which the commissioners say should be extended to Levin-

based on the assumption that the Maritime Provinces should receive special treatment.

Is that assumption correct? Sir Henry Thornton, President of the C.N.R., in his annual report to Parliament for the year 1923, says that rail rates in Canada are the lowest in the world.

It may be added that, because of their peculiar situation, with so much water competition, freight rates in the Maritime Provinces are the lowest in Canada. As an indication of the influence of water competition, a reference may be made to a statement appearing in another part of the report. An instance was cited of the rate "from Montreal to Ottawa, which is \$1.30 a ton for a haul of 117 miles, this being almost twice the cost of water transportation from Sydney to Montreal, approximately a distance of 350 miles."

The section of the National railway, upon which the Government plans to make the reduction, has not only never paid a cent of the capital cost of the railway, but has not and does not pay even the operating cost of the road.

With these facts before us—that the railway rates in Canada are the lowest in the world, that the Maritime rates are the lowest in Canada and that the C.N.R. is losing millions annually in operating expenses, the suggestion that there should be a further reduction of 20 per cent in the rates, the cost of such a generous cut being charged against all the people of Canada, is somewhat amazing.

### WAS ATTEMPT TO BRIBE CONSTITUENCIES

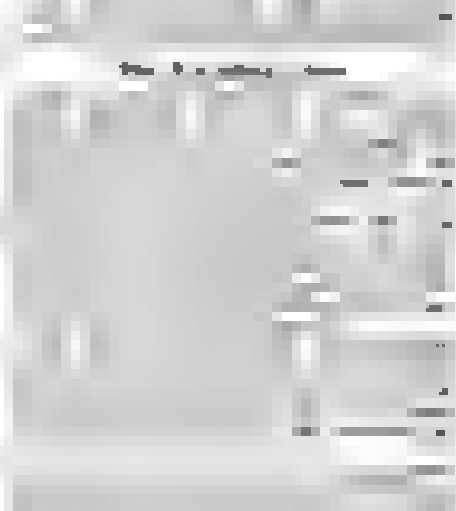
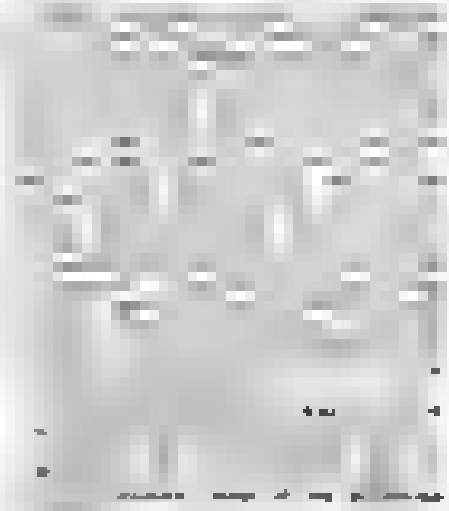
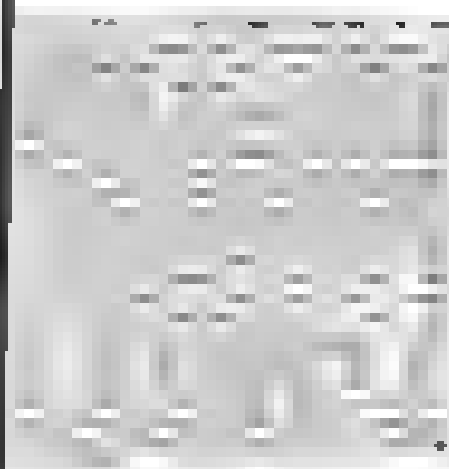
The commissioners give as the chief excuse for this liberal treatment of the Maritime Provinces, the fact that for military reasons Canada built the Intercolonial Railway, not by the most direct route, but 250 miles longer than it might have been built. Liberals in the early days always questioned that excuse and showed very plainly that the extended



W. M. Davidson

and also upon the Maritime section of the C.P.R., the reduction in revenue by these cuts, both on the C.N.R. and C.P.R., to be charged to the people of Canada.

This is an important recommendation, because it is a wide departure from the general principles of public ownership.



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# News from Alberta Wheat Pool Head Office

Editorial content for Wheat Pool Head Office, including information on the Wheat Pool of Canada and its various branches.

## Wheat Pool Lectures

In the last issue we published the table of contents of a series of fourteen short lectures covering No. 2 of the series. Any one may copy of the booklet or any one of the articles by writing to the Department of Education and Publicity.

### THE WHEAT POOL OF CANADA

The Wheat Pool of Canada is a co-operative organization of wheat producers in Canada. It was formed in 1919 and has since then grown steadily in size and importance. It is now the largest co-operative organization in Canada and is one of the most powerful forces in the wheat industry.

#### THE WHEAT POOL OF CANADA AND THE WHEAT PRODUCE

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CANADA CROWN ACT**

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**Amendments to the Canada Crown Act  
Before the House of Commons**

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CANADA CROWN ACT**

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# THE U. S. A.

## FARMERS' GROUP LONG W.

Visitors

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## L. D. Nesbitt Makes Speaking Tour of Many Points

## MAJOR GROUPS OF THE U. S. A.

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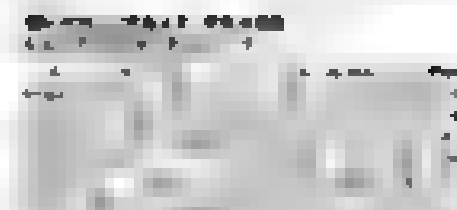
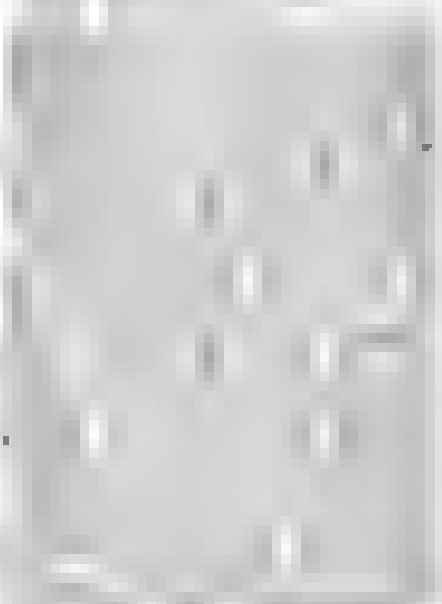
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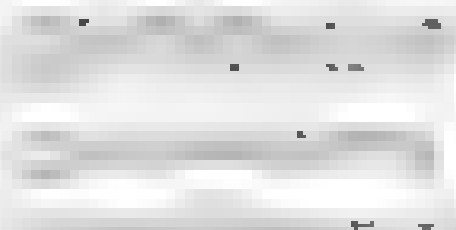
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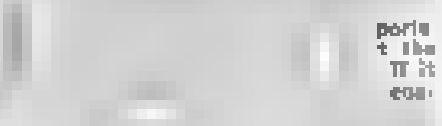
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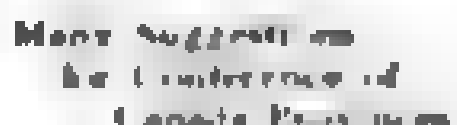
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# Many Suggestions for Limitation of Canada's Power

Many suggestions for the limitation of the power of the U.F.A. group have been received.

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striking out the word "repeal" the word "question" being put in its place. No one, not even the Premier, had the facts regarding this transaction other than what had appeared in the press two years ago.

Clause 9 could, in his opinion, be happily struck out. The B.N.A. was our constitution, and the Dominion was the predominant legislative body, and the representative of the Province could talk all he was blue in the face, it would make no difference—so that was that.

Clause 11 was a vital question, and hinged around the meaning of the words "peaceful picketing." There had been much bloodshed over what was commonly called peaceful picketing, and the phrase had a meaning in law which it was possible was not the meaning given it by the Labor leader. Persuasion was a virtue, but coercion an evil, and the question was to determine where persuasion ended and coercion began. Mr. McGillivray wanted the word "reinstatement" replaced by "question" so as to find some intermediate point of agreement.

#### LIKE THE FAMOUS FOURTEEN POINTS

The leader then presented some suggestions of his own, until, as O. L. McPherson pointed out, the thing had gone beyond the limit of the famous fourteen points of other days. His additions were along lines like this:

Clause 12: To impress the Dominion Government with the necessity that it assume responsibility for the people of the drought area. The Government had induced people to go there on the understanding that the land was fit for agriculture, and the Dominion had never recognized its responsibility in bringing people in nor its moral responsibility for them after they came here.

Clause 14: The necessity of determining the matters which now stood in the way of the development of Spray Lakes.

Clause 15: Co-operation between the Dominion and the Province with regard to the inflow of immigration, and at the same time to preclude the possibility of a flood in any one direction.

Clause 16: Consider the question of joint councils between employers and employees, so that a basis of agreement could be reached for prevention of industrial war. This would bring together the sane employees and the sane among the employers and facilitate a solution for this sometimes vexed question.

Clause 17: Lastly, take up once more the question of the return without conditions, of the natural resources to the Province.

#### SHAW MAKES PERTINENT OBJECTION

Speaking to the Conservative Leader's amendment, Joseph T. Shaw, Bow Valley, mover of the original resolution, took exception to practically all of the points raised as being matters purely as between the Dominion and this Province. The proposed conference was not to be called to settle matters as between this Province and the Dominion, but was for the purpose of conference between representatives of all Provinces and the Dominion on questions germane to all.

There was already an understanding between this Province and the Dominion with regard to the drought area, as witness the Tilley report. The hydro scheme did not concern other Provinces. The question of immigration was already

included in Clause 4 of the original resolution, and was included with a view to the discussion of the matter not in relation to any one limited section but in relation to the whole. The question of employer and employee was vague, and Mr. Shaw had no idea of how this could be worked out at the conference. Finally, there was already an agreement between this Government and that at Ottawa with regard to the natural resources, only awaiting the decision of the Court as to certain matters, and to plunge this question into this coming conference of all the Provinces would merely jeopardize the existing agreement. Mr. Shaw pointed these things out, not because he disagreed with the spirit of them, but because they were foreign to the scope of the conference.

In view of the new amendments, and the need for time in considering them, O. L. McPherson, Minister of Public Works, adjourned the debate.

On the question of privilege on orders of the day, Joseph T. Shaw drew attention to a press report that he had accepted Fred White's amendments to his resolution. This was not the case. Not only had he not done so, but he wanted it understood that he was in complete disagreement with several of them.

Fred White's proposals were as follows:

That the following sentence be added to the motion:

7. A careful consideration of the Old Age Pensions scheme for Canada with a view to meeting any objection that may arise from the various Provinces.

8. Repeal of the recent land grant and other concessions to the Hudson's Bay Co., in the north.

9. The right of each Province to close its boundaries to immigration.

10. A national coal policy.

11. Reinstatement of the right of peaceful picketing.

12. Continuation of technical school grants.

## Assembly Prorogues After Strenuous Day Clearing Order Paper

Cadet Training Question Shaded—No  
Vote on Shaw Resolution

### SATURDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, April 2.—Tired statesmen, with nerves raw and tempers ruffled, climbed the last long grade of legislative endeavor all day Saturday, from 10 o'clock in the attempt to put the finishing touches to the work begun on February 10th. At the outset it looked like a hopeless task, as five resolutions, one of which had been amended and sub-amended (that of Capt. Shaw on the proposed Ottawa Conference) were still on the order paper. By the time of re-assembly after a brief period for lunch the glist had been reduced to 29 bills and three resolutions, four bills being still away back in the jungle of second readings.

Nevertheless by 5:15 the whole litter had been cleaned up, the residue being consigned to the limbo of the lost. The balance of the time up until 6:45 was taken up with third readings and the final passing of legislation which had reached that stage, then entered Lieut.-Governor Egbert, accompanied by a solitary aide, and having given the royal

assent, and his vice-regal benediction, the Premier afterwards declared the Assembly prorogued.

#### MEMBERS' RASPBERRY QUITE FORGIVABLE

That members at times got raspy was quite forgivable. Labor particularly was on its toes with nerves aflutter. Three times during the long day the members on the sandwiched benches flared up hot and bellicose. The first little jab came when Premier Brownlee moved that the Factories Act be recommitted to strike out the words "shall come into effect when assented to" and replace them by "shall come into effect by proclamation." He explained that representations had been made by oil drillers pointing out the hardship which would accrue from the immediate passing of the eight hour day and other provisions which this amendment implied. The consent of the Assembly was given, of course, but when the bill came once more to the third stage, Fred J. White moved that it be recommitted to strike out "by proclamation" and insert "when assented to." This by way of showing Labor's displeasure.

The worst period of all, and one of the tensest since the Assembly met, was on the result of the vote on cadet training. This had been dealt with on four successive occasions in Committee, witnesses pro and con being heard in evidence. The climax was reached when the committee had rather reluctantly agreed to place a resolution before the Assembly, recommending that after September 1st next, the time stipulated in the curriculum for physical training must be devoted wholly for that purpose in the schools of this Province.

On this motion being presented by the Chairman of the Committee, Donald Cameron, Elstera, (U.F.A.), another U. F. A. member, D. C. Breton, Ladue, moved an amendment, in which it stated that as cadet training was not compulsory, being left to the discretion of the school board, an elective body, the present system be continued, as well as provision being made for the physical training of children whose parents were opposed to cadet training, having it made plain that cadet training was in no wise compulsory.

#### MRS. FARLEY OPPOSES AMENDMENT

Well, Fred J. White, the originator of the motion in committee, and Mrs. Irene Farley, Lacombe, Minister Without Portfolio, spoke to the matter in a highly commendable way. Mrs. Farley particularly lifting the question to a very high plane strictly in keeping with the subject matter of the resolution. She was opposed to the amendment. A. A. McGillivray spoke in favor of the amendment, but still the atmosphere was such that had the vote been taken at that moment the resolution originally introduced would have carried. Unfortunately for those who sponsored the elimination of cadet training during school hours, which was really all that was asked for, one of the Labor members R. H. Parkyn, Calgary, injected the fatal atmosphere of anti-militarism which was beside the point at issue, and from then on the cause went down to defeat, some former members swinging to the amendment, while several refrained from voting.

Even at that, the vote on D. C. Breton's amendment, stood at 29 for and 22 against, a close vote indeed, and one under circumstances which many members felt did not justify Aid. Gilbe, Edmonton, before the motion as amended was disposed of, giving members on the Govern-

ment side of the Assembly a tongue-lashing unprecedented during the session.

The endeavor of Fred White to debate the question further was ruled out. He then tried to move an amendment, which was also ruled out. He tried once more to have the question shelved by moving a hoist, but this also was unavailing, the Speaker ruling that hoists were not permissible on resolutions. Ex-Speaker Fingle took a hand in the matter, as well as Andrew Smenton, Lethbridge, (Labor).

#### QUESTION SHELVED FOR PRESENT YEAR

The Speaker finally pointed a way out by suggesting that someone could move the adjournment of the debate, although it had been pointed out that there was no debate unless an amendment was being offered.

Mr. Smenton, Lethbridge, moved the adjournment of the debate, which, being accepted, and put, carried without dissent, thus shelving for this year the entire question.

#### DEBATE ON SHAW RESOLUTION ON HIGH PLANE

The same finish was accorded Joseph T. Shaw's motion, dealt with twice already and to which further amendments had been offered. Compromise having been effected by Premier Brownlee, to permit the views of Liberals, Labor and Conservatives to find expression at the forthcoming Dominion-wide conference, Mr. Shaw, after a splendid debate, and one carried all the way through on a high plane, moved the adjournment, thus shelving the question as agreed upon.

A Bill dealing with Public Utilities Act amendments, introduced by D. M. Duggan, Edmonton, (Conservative) but somewhat emasculated, passed, granting a modified form of appeal from the decisions of the Board on questions of jurisdiction, and also making provisions for the settlement of contracts between persons or corporations for the supply of gas, having in mind the Royalite Company and the City of Calgary more particularly.

The Theatres Bill was amended to permit the adoption of the British and Australian system of using the word "universal" to describe films of general family use. Mr. McGillivray moved the striking out of several lines in one of the clauses in Mrs. Parfly's bill dealing with Domestic Relations. This was where a new principle was introduced, granting the payment of a "lump sum of money or the transfer, incumbrance or settlement of the whole or any part of the husband's property" if necessary in lieu of payment.

The words were struck out.

#### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENTS

The Workmen's Compensation Act was amended in some particulars. Amendments under the new amendments for the objects specified in the bill won't exceed \$17,000 per year in one case and \$7,000 in the other. The Companies Act, designed principally to safeguard the rights of minorities passed.

#### COMMITTEE TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS

In moving the appointment of a committee of fifteen members, representing employers, employees and members of the Legislative Assembly, to investigate and make recommendations to the next session of the Assembly on the whole matter of the Workmen's Compensation Act, Premier Brownlee pointed out that this act was one of the pieces of legislation

which gave rise to yearly amendments. The view of the workers was that it was progressive legislation, and an act which would have to change with changing conditions. Because of the recurring need for amendments he said the Government was anxious to have a representative committee appointed to review the entire question and put this matter in shape to be dealt with from time to time. He outlined what had been done in Manitoba, in that regard. Communication with the Government of Manitoba had furnished the information that the use of such a committee had worked out all right there, resulting in a condition of tranquility ever since the adoption of that method. The committee would make a canvass of the entire field, the question of ways and means of reducing the possibility of accident, the matter of disputes over medical decisions, and kindred matters.

A. A. McGillivray, Calgary, wanted the scope of the inquiry to include questions of non-negligence, cases of accidents in the running trades and the bringing of these sections within the purview of the investigation, to which the Premier answered that that was the intention of the Government. The resolution carried.

Coming to the resolution of Joseph T. Shaw, Bow Valley, O. L. McPherson resumed the debate, saying that on account of the agreement to compromise he had no intention of prolonging the debate.

Premier Brownlee dealt with the question of the coming conference and the suggestions of the various leaders. Owing to lack of official intimation of the conference, suggestions could only be tentative in any case. The suggestion of the Conservative leader that the clause dealing with the constitution be struck out was not feasible, as if the conference were called for that purpose as intimated in the press it would be dealt with inevitably. One thing which would be kept in mind would be to see that no agreement would be made whereby the constitution would ever be amended without the consent of the Province as a contracting party.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT PROPER SUBJECT FOR CONSIDERATION

The question of unemployment was a proper subject for consideration, as was the realization of the field of taxation. With regard to Senate reform there was no mandate in the resolution as to what method should be adopted. The Dominion might take the stand that this was not a proper subject for discussion. The matter of railways, again, was more or less a Provincial matter, and if each Province introduced its own pet schemes the agenda would be sufficiently large to keep them in conference for a long time. However, the Premier was of the opinion that the Dominion should take more responsibility with regard to the northern railways.

The principle of the old age pension measure was an acceptable one, but the matter of the Hudson's Bay land grant was not so well chosen, as the Premier contended that what had been done had been validly done, and the only thing which might be achieved would be to provide for reference to the Province in the case of future grants being contemplated.

#### THE QUESTION OF IMMIGRATION

The question of immigration was one in which the Province was interested, and while it was true that immigration had been to date a purely Dominion matter,

the Province had a perfect right to be in a position to say when immigrants should be admitted and when excluded. The Premier had letters from Dr. Maclellan pointing out that immigrants from Central Europe who had been encouraged here by certain agencies had been sent to the municipality. Towns and cities had to have some protection against unnecessary unemployment problems. He would favor the working out of some kind of joint immigration board.

All were agreed on a National coal policy being discussed, and the subject of powerful picketing was also valid. Dealing with Mr. McGillivray's amendments, the Premier said his first suggestion being of purely local nature might not be patiently listened to, but the clearing up of the water power situation was permissible, as other Provinces were interested as well as Alberta. Manitoba and B.C. had their power projects as well. The solution of labor disputes by conference between employers, employees and the different Governments was practical, he thought, and he would be pleased to sit in at the conference to discuss the subject. With regard to the subdivision, there were really only a few which would be affected by upward revision, and only one would have any bearing on the natural resources. With reference to the latter, anything done would have to be done without prejudice, and the Premier stated the great stumbling block in the past to their return to have been the Eastern Provinces. It had been pointed out repeatedly that it was absolutely impossible ever to secure the return of the natural resources so long as the three Western Provinces were forced to sit in conference with the Eastern Provinces on the question. To inject this question into a Dominion-wide conference would be to hazard the ultimate settlement.

Mr. McGillivray interjected the statement that he rejoiced to know the Government had put the stamp of its approval on Conservative suggestions for the first time during the session, and the Premier concluded by saying that the drought was already the subject of collaboration between the Federal and Provincial Governments, but the railway problem was purely local.

#### "DOLE" MISLEADING TERM FOR INSURANCE

C. L. Gibbs, Edmonton, (Labor), said the Conservative leader had acted on quite a gratuitous assumption when he suggested that Labor was not behind the demand for the enactment of unemployment insurance. Not only was Labor solidly behind the demand, but they resented very deeply the application of the word "dole" to describe this legitimate form of social legislation. This word had been invented by the partisan press to depreciate the endeavors of Labor in the desire for better conditions. Coming to the Hudson's Bay land grant, Mr. Gibbs said the recent grant should in no way be considered the same as the big grant issued at the time of the deed of surrender. It was significant, he said, amid the smiles of members, that the gentleman who made the recent grant bore the same name as the gentleman who made the original grant away back in the dim past—he referred to the Hon. Chas. Stewart. The original grant had been in lieu of the company's claim on the territory, one-twentieth of all fertile land set out for settlement, and the company had claimed that National Parks and Indian Reserves had come within the scope of the original grant, and the Minister had conceded this without a struggle.

"The present Charles Stewart, who his predecessor, had—"

Mr. Headley—"Lost his head."

Mr. Gibbs—"Perhaps"—at any rate he should have fought to the last ultimate ditch, and the people of Alberta must feel that he had no right to give away so much valuable land in the Province to this company. There was another aspect to this. The immigration policies would be largely stimulated by the desire of this company to unload these fertile acres on the immigrant, and the Labor member feared that no good would result from the handing of the Alberta immigration office under Mr. Greenfield in the Hudson's Bay Company premises in London.

#### SHAW CLOSES THE DEBATE

After Alderman Parkyn had given a dissertation on the value of precedent, the necessity for social legislation, under-privatization of children, the pension issue for worn-out politicians, and the needs of a progressive young country, Capt. Shaw closed the debate. In his opinion the discussion had been of the highest level, and he offered no apology for the introduction of the resolution. He would have been better satisfied if the conference could have been called in Alberta, so that the East could have seen for themselves at first hand what Alberta was like.

The thing which Mr. Shaw did not like was the suggestions of Labor with regard to the old age pensions and the Hudson's Bay Co. The former as it was worded, would only result in the Dominion saying: "We have given you a measure of old age pensions but you have not taken advantage of it. Why discuss this matter further until you have put what is now in the statute books into operation."

The Liberal leader barked back in Canadian history to the original grant of land to the Bay, remarking that all the land included in that agreement had not yet been handed over. The Dominion was of necessity bound to live up to its obligations, and he did not like the suggestion that the grant was just a gigantic steal. The company had received only one acre for every four granted. Mr. Shaw agreed with Labor that the reinstatement of peaceful picketing should be discussed, going into detail to prove that this had been quite legitimate in Canadian law, and was so now in England. After the questions of the constitution, the use of the word "necessity" in making for social legislation, and the final touch on the Senate, the Liberal leader adjourned the debate, thus shelving the question.

#### THE DISCUSSION ON CADET TRAINING

On Donald Cameron, Innisfail, reporting to the Assembly that the agricultural committee had considered the matter of cadet training in schools, and presented a motion as a basis of discussion. Fred White, Calgary, proceeded to speak to the resolution.

Mr. White considered the Breton amendment, which was on the order paper, as most unusual, prefiging as well as adding words to the original motion. The subject matter was very misleading, suggesting as it did that the remedy for those opposed to cadet training lay in the fact that school boards were elective bodies. That provided no remedy whatever, as only a portion of the board was elected each year.

To Mr. White's mind, the issue was this, that the Dominion had thought fit to place educational matters in the hands

of the Province, and the Department had thought fit to put physical training on the curriculum. Why, then, had the Militia Department at Ottawa been permitted to claim the physical training period for the purpose of carrying on cadet work? Labor was not pressing for anything else in the resolution than for the elimination of cadet training during hours given through the curriculum to other subjects.

#### PHYSICAL TRAINING MORE BENEFICIAL

There had been no agreement between the Militia Department and the Department of Education, said Mr. White, to which Mr. Baker, Minister of Education, said that although he had made that statement in committee he had been informed by Major Miller that there was an agreement. Mr. White quoted authorities to show that physical training was much more beneficial to the growing boy than the other, and said it was not the purpose of the resolution to deter those parents who wished their children to have cadet training from taking advantage of the Strathcona Trust and carrying on this work after school hours. He was emphatic that what parents who objected to cadet training wanted was simply that the 80 minutes now on the curriculum should be devoted entirely to that form of training. The Provincial Department of Education should be supreme, independent of interference from the Militia Department, and parents should not be compelled to vote themselves out of something which had really no right to be there at all.

#### SHOULD BE FREE FROM MILITIA DEPARTMENT

Hon. Irene Parfry, Minister Without Portfolio, saw no difference in resolution and amendment, unless it were in the choice of words. To her the question of Provincial rights was a big issue, and it was not fitting that training of any kind under direction of the Militia Department should be injected into the Provincial system. She went into detail with regard to the findings of eminent people as to the relative value of physical training and training of a military type. The consensus of opinion was in favor of the former.

There was no quarrel with military training in this resolution; it was not even inferred that its abolition was aimed at. No one in that assembly could stand up and say we had seen the last war. The only thing that was suggested was that the school was not the place for this work. In the United States it had become compulsory in colleges to have cadet corps, and a great wave of public opinion was now sweeping that country in the effort to rid themselves of that compulsion.

But Mrs. Parfry had a deeper reason than all these, and that was the psychological effect on the child. Cadet training did not necessarily give a military point of view. What it did do was to make the child think that war was inevitable, that war was the correct manner of settling disputes, and that sooner or later he would be called to bear arms. Of what value would a league of nations or any other effort to abolish war ever become so long as there was not instilled in the rising generation a new attitude of mind. This, and this alone, would prepare the way for true peace endeavors. Mrs. Parfry quoted from the writings of an eminent British Officer, who was no ultra-peaceist, to show that it was noticeable that heavy expenditures were

being made by the nations in the endeavor to furnish more deadly weapons. Scientists were preparing more and more their plans for human destruction, and this officer of high rank stated that if civilization were to be saved at all it would be necessary to create a new psychology, teaching the youth that war can be abolished, that other methods of settling disputes are available. Mrs. Parfry thought, therefore, that this was the crux of the entire question, and for that reason, she felt bound to vote for the resolution and against the amendment.

A. A. McGilivray, Calgary, (Conservative) said he had no apprehension whatever that cadet training was productive of evil, and he thought the amendment of Mr. Breton's quite reasonable, and would support it.

#### PARKYN MAKES ANTI-MILITARIST SPEECH

R. H. Parkyn, Calgary (Labor) took the Assembly on a tour of examination of authorities past and present in an anti-war speech that assayed the weary members striving to finish in a few hours the business of the session. Mr. Parkyn acted in good faith, being swayed by his enthusiasm for an idealistic age, but apparently he got off on the wrong foot, for from that moment the atmosphere changed, and the reaction could be felt almost instantly.

Joseph T. Shaw, Bow Valley, said that his own personal viewpoint was that he was absolutely opposed to cadet training in the schools. One of the things to be considered was the viewpoint of the other fellow. So far as he could see there were some parents and others who desired to retain that form of training, and for that reason it should have a definite place in the school; he was going to vote for the amendment.

Premier Brownlee supported the amendment. He was more concerned about the kind of training the child received in the home than he was about the mild form of cadet training in the schools of the Province. All parents were more or less guilty of providing warlike toys and other militaristic accoutrements which went very much further to create the military psychology than did the other.

The vote being taken it was found that the amendment carried. The Government front line divided. Mrs. Parfry, George Headley and R. G. Reid voting against the amendment. The vote was close, being 26 for the amendment and 22 against. After this the Labor member from Edmonton caricatured the U.F.A. members severely in his own intemperate manner, and finally the whole question was shelved for the year by Andrew Smenton, Lethbridge, moving the adjournment of the debate.

#### PIBROCH LOCAL ORGANIZED

Pibroch Local was organized in March by H. Critchlow and C. Antonson. C. T. Gamble and Thos. W. Garde were elected president and secretary respectively.

The annual Feeders' Day of the Department of Animal Husbandry, University of Alberta, will be held on Saturday, April 9th, the last day of the Edmonton Spring Show, commencing at 10 a.m. Feeders' Day is planned for the purpose of reviewing and discussing the results of the experiments in feeding beef and dairy cattle, sheep and swine, carried on by the University during the past year.

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